

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 204920

51 61

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PRS-01 AF-10 H-03 EUR-25 ARA-16 EA-11

RSC-01 IO-14 USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 SPC-03 SS-20 ACDA-19 INRE-00

OMB-01 SAJ-01 SSO-00 /172 R

66604

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:JEHRIGGS

10/16/73 EXT. 20448

APPROVED BY NEA/P:JEHRIGGS

S/PRS - MR. KING (INFO)

IP/P - MR. BLACHLY

AF/P - MRS. RUSSELL

H - MISS FOLGER (INFO)

NEA/EGY - MR. STERNER

EUR/P - MR. SAVAGE

NEA - MR. ATHERTON

----- 128625

O 162010Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

USDEL SALT TWO IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 204920

INFORM CONSULS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (OMISSION OF TEXT THROUGHOUT MESSAGE)

KUWAIT POUCH MUSCAT, DOHA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 204920

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING IS PARTIAL

EXCERPT FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING
OCTOBER 16, 1973:

QUOTE: Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON PRESIDENT SADAT'S
SPEECH TODAY, PARTICULARLY THE PROPOSALS HE MAKES FOR
SETTLEMENT?

A. NOTHING OTHER THAN WE ARE, AND HAVE BEEN AWARE OF THE
VIEWS OF THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT IN THIS RESPECT, AND WE
HAVE PRESENTED TO THEM OUR VIEWS ALSO. I WOULD NOT BE PRE-
PARED TO GO BEYOND THAT.

Q. COULD YOU GO BEYOND IT JUST TO THE EXTENT THAT THEY
DISCUSSED, DR. KISSINGER DISCUSSED IT WITH MINISTER EBAN?

A. I DON'T THINK I COULD LITERALLY ANSWER THAT. HE HASN'T
SEEN MR. EBAN SINCE LATE LAST WEEK, SO THAT IT WOULDN'T BE
POSSIBLE -- MY INCLINATION IS TO SAY NO, IN TERMS OF THE
WAY THE FORMULATION WAS ADVANCED BY PRESIDENT SADAT PUBLICLY.
I'D HAVE TO SAY THAT KNOWING THAT IN GENERAL THIS WAS AN
EGYPTIAN DESIRE, THAT IN GENERAL TERMS THAT MAY HAVE BEEN
DISCUSSED WITH THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT.

Q. IS THERE ANY SERIOUS DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY GOING ON NOW
TO STOP THE FIGHTING? UNDERLINE "SERIOUS."

A. YES, INDEED THERE IS. WE STILL ARE FIRMLY OF THE
BELIEF THAT THERE IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE GREAT POWERS
TO FIND A MEANS TO END THE WAR AND THE MEANS, AT THE SAME
TIME, TO BRING ABOUT A DURABLE PEACE IN THE AREA. CERTAIN-
LY THERE IS THAT WILL ON OUR PART, AND WE MAKE ASSUMPTIONS
THAT THE WILL EXISTS AMONG OTHERS, ALSO.

Q. MR. LAIRD SAID THIS MORNING THAT THERE IS IN EFFECT A
SITUATION OF CONFRONTATION WITH THE SOVIET UNION, AND
THAT THE SOVIET UNION IS NOT PERFORMING AS IF THERE WERE A
DETENTE. DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHARE VIEW?

A. I HAVE NO ACCOUNTING, MYSELF, OF REMARKS MADE BY
MR. LAIRD TODAY, SO I AM IN NO POSITION TO COMMENT ON WHAT
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 204920

HE SAID, OR IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID. SO FAR AS THE
UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION ARE CONCERNED, I WANT
ONLY TO SAY THAT WE CONTINUE IN SERIOUS CONTACT WITH THEM.
I WOULD EXPECT THAT THAT WILL GO ON. I DO NOT WANT TO BE
DRIVEN TO MAKING, AS I SAID YESTERDAY, DECLAMATORY STATE-
MENTS THAT TOUCH UPON THE BROADER ISSUES IN THE OVER-ALL
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET
UNION.

Q. CAN YOU ENLIGHTEN US ABOUT A REPORT FROM NEW YORK THAT SEVERAL ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS HAVE ASKED TO COME TO WASHINGTON TO SEE THE PRESIDENT AND PRESUMABLY THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND WHAT THE STATUS OF THAT IS? WAS THERE A REQUEST, A FEELER, AN ACCEPTANCE, A REJECTION?

A. THIS FIRST CAME UP TOWARD THE END OF LAST WEEK, AND TO MY KNOWLEDGE, INITIALLY IN THE MEETING THAT THE SECRETARY HELD WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF SAUDI ARABIA. I DO EXPECT THAT THE MINISTERS OF SAUDI ARABIA, ALGERIA, KUWAIT, AND MOROCCO ARE COMING DOWN TO WASHINGTON TOMORROW AND WILL MEET WITH THE PRESIDENT, AND I WOULD ASSUME THE SECRETARY OF STATE WOULD BE PRESENT. IT WAS AT THEIR REQUEST.

Q. CAN YOU AT LEAST COMMENT ON WHAT THE FEELING IS HERE ON MR. BREZHNEV'S STATEMENT YESTERDAY AND MR. KOSYGIN'S STATEMENT YESTERDAY, BOTH ON THE MIDDLE EAST, AND BOTH PLEDGING SOVIET SUPPORT FOR ARAB EFFORTS TO TAKE OVER THE OCCUPIED TERRITORY?

A. FRANKLY, I'M NOT TOO AWARE OF THE REMARKS OF PREMIER KOSYGIN, BUT WE DID EXAMINE THE COMMUNIQUE BETWEEN MESSRS BREZHNEV AND BOUMEDIENNE, AND, FOR THE RECORD, WE HAVE DECIDED WE HAVE NO COMMENT ON IT.

Q. TO WHAT EXTENT, IF AT ALL, HAVE SOVIET ADVISERS OR TECHNICIANS GONE BACK INTO SYRIA OR EGYPT WITH THE AIR LIFT THAT YOU DETAILED YESTERDAY?

A. I'M FRANK TO SAY I HAVE NO INFORMATION IN THAT REGARD THAT I WOULD BE CONFIDENT IN USING.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 204920

Q. DO YOU KNOW WHETHER THERE ARE SOVIET ADVISERS FIGHTING ALONGSIDE SYRIAN FORCES?

A. NO, I HAVE NO INFORMATION IN THAT RESPECT.

Q. CAN YOU TELL US IF TECHNICIANS HAVE GONE BACK IN AT ALL WITH SOME OF THE EQUIPMENT THAT HAS BEEN SHIPPED?

A. LET ME SAY, ON BACKGROUND, I WOULD HAVE TO LEAVE THAT OPEN AS A POSSIBILITY GIVEN PERHAPS THE NATURE OF SOME OF THE SPECIFIC ITEMS.

Q. IS THE UNITED STATES SENDING IN INCREASED NUMBERS OF TECHNICIANS TO ISRAEL?

A. I FRANKLY DON'T KNOW THE ANSWER TO THAT. WE HAVE NOT INTRODUCED ANY AMERICAN MILITARY FORCES OR PERSONNEL INTO THE FIGHTING. WHETHER THERE ARE TECHNICIANS REQUIRED FOR CERTAIN OF THE EQUIPMENT AND TO COORDINATE THE DELIVERY OF THE EQUIPMENT I SIMPLY HAVE TO LEAVE OPEN. YOU MIGHT CHECK AT THE PENTAGON.

Q. HAS THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT BEEN INFORMED BY THE OIL COMPANIES ABOUT THE ARABS TELLING THEM THAT THEY WERE GOING TO CUT OIL PRODUCTION TEN PERCENT THE FIRST MONTH, FIVE PERCENT IN SUCCEEDING MONTHS IF THE UNITED STATES OVERTLY RESUPPLIED ISRAEL?

A. WELL, I CAN'T SAY YES OR NO AND BE ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN. THE CONTACTS THAT OIL COMPANIES HAVE IN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT CAN BE QUITE VARIED. I THINK WHAT IS IMPORTANT, HOWEVER, IS WHAT I SAID YESTERDAY, THAT IN THE OFFICIAL CHANNEL WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED THREATS THAT FORECAST A CUT-OFF IN THE SUPPLY OF OIL.

Q. WOULD IT BE A MATTER OF CONCERN TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IF IT WERE TO BE LEARNED THAT AMERICAN EQUIPMENT FURNISHED TO THE JORDANIANS WAS BEING USED OPPOSING AMERICAN EQUIPMENT FURNISHED TO THE ISRAELIS? WOULD THIS BE A MATTER OF CONCERN? AND WHAT IS THE NATURE OF THESE AGREEMENTS THAT WE HAVE? DO WE HAVE AN AGREEMENT WITH

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 204920

ISR
E E E E E E E

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PFOR
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE204920
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JEBRIGGS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731028/aaaaaucl.tel
Line Count: 197
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03-Dec-2001 by bryansd0>; APPROVED <06 MAR 2002 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING
TAGS: n/a
To: n/a
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005